CHINA'S AGGRESSION
AGAINST
VIETNAM

Afro-Asian Publications (100)

STATEMENTS AND REPORT OF THE VISIT TO VIETNAM BY THE DELEGATION OF THE AFRO-ASIAN PEOPLES' SOLIDARITY ORGANISATION

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INTRODUCTION

After the Chinese aggression against Vietnam, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation was invited to send a delegation to go and observe the destructions caused by the attack from the north as well as its impact on the Vietnamese people. It was a visit of solidarity, to witness in order to inform the world of the extent of the vicious aggression, of the enormity of the crimes committed and also to reassure the heroic people of Vietnam of the continuing support and sympathy of the peoples of the world, of all the progressive and freedom-loving forces in their struggle for peace, security and territorial integrity against the forces of expansionism and hegemonism.

The delegation which was in Vietnam, from 28 March to 5 May, 1979 was composed of the following :

1 — **Mr. Yusuf Ahmed,** Minister of Transport and Communications, People's Republic of Ethiopia and Member of the Presidium, Ethiopian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity (Leader),

2 — **Mr. Baren Ray,** Deputy Secretary-General of AAPSO, from India,

3 — **Mr. Albert Farhat,** Representative of the Lebanese Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee,

4 — **Mr. Jeremiah Nekopepe,** Representative of the African National Congress of South Africa, and

5 — **Mr. Yusuf Heile,** Assistant to Mr. Yusuf Ahmed (Ethiopia).

For the members of the delegation, it became an un-

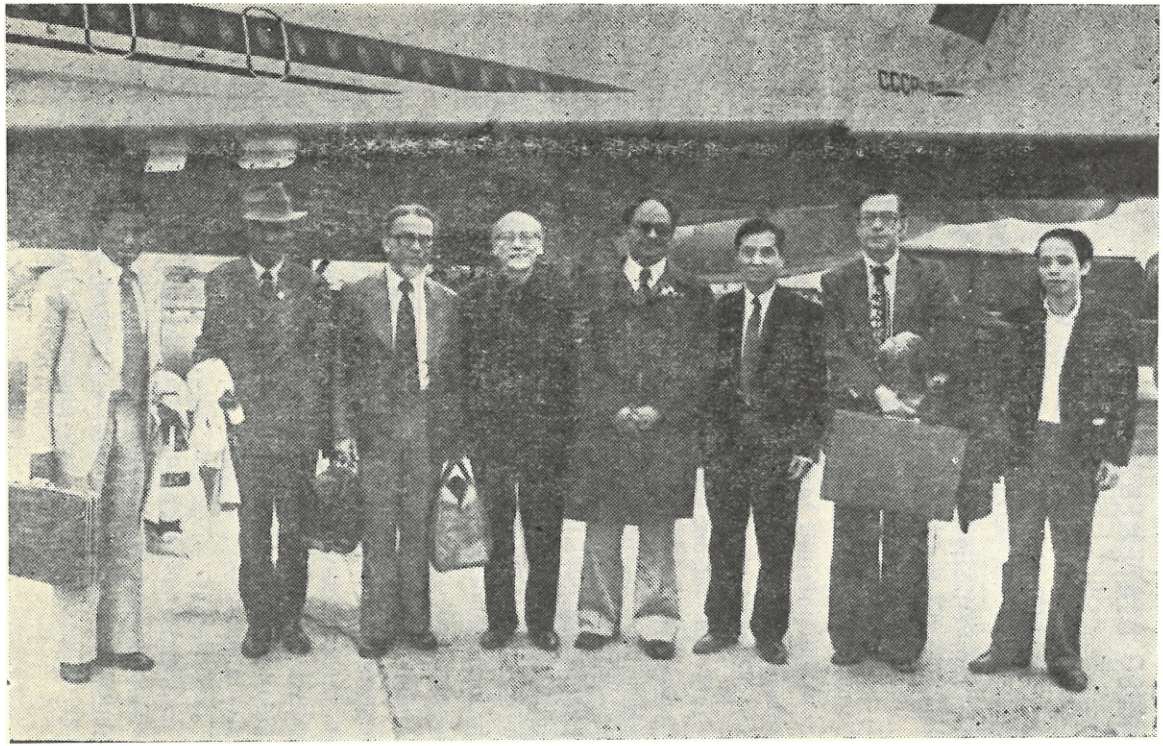
forgettable experience, not only for the endless tales of wanton destruction, of killing, looting and massacre, of savage cruelty, of mad senseless hostility by an army that had come, according to their own arrogant boasts, to teach Vietnam a lesson.

But above everything else it was an opportunity to have a glimpse of the great courage and determination of the Vietnamese people. Their national unity and resolute preparedness are greater today than ever before, not excluding at the height of the resistance was against the U.S. aggression.

The Vietnamese people have halted the aggression and talks have started for clearing the frontier of any traces of foreign occupation and tension as well as to solve all outstanding problems peacefully. But the danger still remains. Over 600,000 Chinese forces remain on the frontier besides the continued occupation of six strategic points on Vietnamese territory. There is also a massive concentration of Chinese forces on the border with Laos keeping up the threat of a new aggression across Laotian territory, apart from constituting a very serious threat to Laos itself.

All peace- and freedom-loving forces, the Afro-Asian and non-aligned countries, the socialist countries and above all the common people throughout the world who have admired and stood by the heroic people of Vietnam for decades, must be vigilant today against this new danger of expansionism and hegemonism in Asia and once again stand by the people of Vietnam.

In this short pamphlet are given the texts of some AAPSO statements, some personal impressions of the members of the delegation and some other relevant documents throwing light on the critical situation obtaining in Vietnam today.



AAPSO delegation received on their arrival at Hanoi airport by leaders of the Vietnam Solidarity Committee.

AAPSO STATEMENT

On the Chinese Government's War of Aggression Against Vietnam

The Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO has learnt with consternation that the Chinese Government brazenly launched a large scale war of aggression against Vietnam on February 17th, 1979.

Many infantry, armour and artillery divisions with air support have launched a massive attack on the entire 1200 km-long Vietnam-China border, committing serious crimes and causing great loss in life and property to the Vietnamese people.

For many years now, in spite of China's intensified provocations and threats, the people and Government of Vietnam have shown most self-restraint in the interests of peace and friendship, searching all means to settle, through negotiation, all the problems between the two countries.

It is widely known that the Chinese rulers after repeated hostile acts against Vietnam have stepped up, in recent months, feverish war preparations against Vietnam, contrary to the interest of the Chinese people themselves and threatening peace and security in South East Asia and the world.

The valiant Vietnamese people and government are labouring hard to reconstruct their battered economy and country after the devastation wreaked by the long U.S. war of aggression. In their endeavour to make up for all

the losses of the bitter years of war, the Vietnamese people cherish peace as a paramount factor for the reconstruction of their country.

Any act to obstruct the courageous and heroic people of Vietnam from the urgent tasks of reconstruction and of overcoming their difficult problems are counter-revolutionary and serve the interests of world imperialism. This wide scale invasion reminds us of the American war of aggression in the region.

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation strongly endorses the urgent call of the people and the Government of Vietnam expressed in the Statement of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam dated 17th February 1979 to all friendly countries, all peoples including the Chinese people, the United Nations and democratic and anti-imperialist organizations to strengthen further their solidarity with Vietnam and urge the People's Republic of China to put an immediate end to her aggressive war and withdraw all her troops from Vietnam.

Whilst strongly condemning this act of aggression of the Government of China, the AAPSO calls upon all its national organizations and the world public opinion to mobilise popular support for the just cause of the Vietnamese people in their endeavour to safeguard their territorial integrity and hard-won independence.

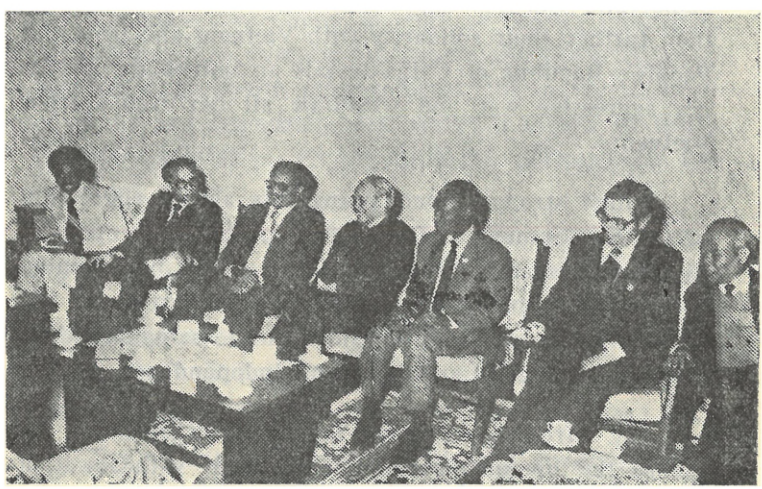
The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Chinese troops from Vietnamese soil and calls for an end to the aggression, bringing death and destruction to the peace-loving Vietnamese people.

The AAPSO appeals to the two socialist brother peoples of Vietnam and China to preserve the long-standing friendship between the two countries and peoples.

The AAPSO calls on world public opinion to raise once again the slogan "Hands off Vietnam" which serves the cause of international peace and security.

"Hands off Vietnam !."

19 February 1979.



AAPSO delegation members with the Vietnam Communist Party C.C. Secretary Xuan Thuy.

AAPSO TELEGRAM SENT TO THE U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL

Mr. KURT WALDHEIM
Secretary-General
New York

Recent intrusion of Chinese troops into Vietnamese territory constitutes a flagrant act of aggression. This aggression inimical to independence and territorial integrity of Vietnam and serious threat to peace and security of southeast Asian peoples. Deeply concerned by situation which threatens to deteriorate dangerously against interests of peoples of region and world peace. The Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization addresses urgent appeal to International Community demanding Chinese leadership immediately unconditionally withdraw their troops from Vietnam prerequisite condition for negotiated solution of conflict. Highest consideration.

Cairo, 19 February 1979.

Abdel Rahman El-Sharkawi
Secretary-General AAPSO

AAPSO STATEMENT

On the recent developments of the Chinese Government's War of Aggression against Vietnam

Over a week has passed since the Government of the People's Republic of China launched its full scale war of aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam along the entire 1200 Kilometre long Vietnam-China border.

All over the world peace and freedom-loving peoples and governments have expressed their deepest shock and consternation at this arrogant aggression which portends great danger to the peace in Asia and the world and have demanded the immediate halting and the vacation of this aggression. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam also has called for an immediate end to the war and the withdrawal of the aggressors. But the Chinese aggressors are continuing with their arrogant adventure.

The Chinese side has been preparing for this aggression for a long time and even been boasting of teaching Vietnam a lesson.

The Chinese authorities have territorial ambitions against Vietnam which at least go as far back as 1974 when they forcibly occupied the Paracels islands and made huge claims for other Vietnamese islands in the South of the China Sea. They have been openly hostile against Vietnam ever since their Vietnamese people's great victory in 1975 when the fully liberated the South,

inflicted total defeat on U.S. imperialism and reunified the whole country.

They instigated the Vietnamese citizens of Chinese descent to revolt against the Vietnamese Government engaged in the programme of building socialism. The Chinese authorities displayed their total hostility towards Vietnam quite openly when all at once they cancelled all economic assistance agreements with Vietnam hoping for the Vietnamese economy to collapse. However, when all these misadventures failed badly, the Chinese authorities intensified the border incidents and clashes which have been going on already for a long time and began massive mobilisation all along the border.

The Chinese authorities have declared themselves in fact and in practice, contrary to the interests of many national liberation movements in the world. Vice-Premier of the People's Republic of China Deng Xiao Bing during his visits to the USA and Japan recently talked openly about this orientation of China's global policy as well as the plans of "punishing" Vietnam. The present aggression is therefore nothing unexpected and has come as a culmination of all these developments and portends both the danger of a major war in Asia as well as of China's aggressive schemes in South-East Asia unless it is checked in time by the combined strength of all the peace-loving and democratic forces and governments of the world.

For the heroic people of Vietnam this is not the first time they are facing arrogant aggressors. For thirty long years as they fought the wrath and the might of imperialism, they were never alone. The peoples of the world were always with them in their just cause. The

Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation is proud of its record of work over the years in solidarity with Vietnam. Now again all the democratic, peace and freedom-loving forces all over the world, among them socialist countries, the anti-imperialist non-aligned countries and others shall stand together with Vietnam against the Chinese hegemonists and the collaborators with imperialism.

The AAPSO calls upon all its national member organisations and other fraternal democratic organisations to condemn this act of aggression in the strongest possible manner and mobilise popular support in solidarity with the Vietnamese people in order to halt the aggression as soon as possible on the basis of complete and unconditional withdrawal of all Chinese forces from Vietnam. The AAPSO specially appeals to the people of China who, in the past, have not only fought valiantly in the common struggle against imperialism and reaction but have stood in support of the long struggle of the Vietnamese people themselves, not to allow the present leaders of the People's Republic of China to continue their policies of aggression. They must restore the long-standing friendship between the two countries and peoples.

26 February 1979.

AAPSO STATEMENT

On the Further Development of the Chinese Government Aggression on Vietnam

During more than 2 weeks of Chinese massive invasion against Vietnam, indulging their troops in wanton shelling, looting and massacre of Vietnamese civilians, all the deceitful allegations of the Chinese rulers aimed at covering this aggression have been rejected by world public opinion.

For the sake of peace and justice, the people of the world over strongly supported the Vietnamesee people's just struggle and energetically condemned the Chinese rulers' crime of aggression.

Among the Chinese people and army men there have also been strong protests against this war of aggression — In face of their growing difficulties on March 5th, 1979, the Chinese rulers were compelled to declare that they would start the complete withdrawal of their troops back to China.

Up to now, AAPSO has made quite clear through its stand, its statements on February 19th and 26th analysing that the adventurous criminal actions of the Chinese rulers against the Socialist Vietnam are rooted in the reactionary hegemonist policy of the Chinese leadership. As long as these expansionist schemes are not eradicated, there will not be true move towards peace from China.

However, AAPSO treasuring the friendship between the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples, fully supports the

Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam issued on March 6th showing her sincerity and goodwill to preserve peace and stability in South-East Asia and the world. Stating that if China really withdraws all its troops from the Vietnamese territory, and only after the complete withdrawal of Chinese troops to the other side of the border-line which the two sides have agreed to respect, will the Vietnamese side be prepared to enter into talks with Chinese side.

Nevertheless, AAPSO remains vigilant about the Chinese rulers' statement, and strongly supports the position of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam which will use their sacred right to self-defence and resolutely fight against aggression to defend their fatherland if the Chinese rulers try to use their troop withdrawal as a trick to cover up their policy of aggression.

AAPSO reiterates its strong demand that the Chinese rulers have to withdraw immediately, completely, and unconditionally their troops from Vietnam.

10 March 1979.

AAPSO STATEMENT

On China's New Threat Against Vietnam and Laos

After being shamefully denounced and condemned all over the world, bitterly beaten by the Vietnamese people and strongly protested by their own people and troops, the Chinese aggressors, since one month, were compelled to declare that they would start the complete withdrawal of their armed forces from Vietnam.

But in reality, they were shifting one part of their invading troops from Vietnam to their border with the Lao People's Democratic Republic, infiltrating into Lao territory, threatening Lao people with an aggressive war and rebellions, thus menacing Lao independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The remaining part of the Chinese invading forces still stuck to more than ten salient points in the territory of Vietnam and moved the frontier posts further into Vietnamese side chaining that the Chinese troops have completely withdrawn, this legalising their occupation of Vietnamese land.

Particularly serious is that these recent days, the Chinese authorities have again massed large scale troops on Vietnamese frontiers and Chinese propaganda is paving way for another criminal war of aggression both against Vietnam and Laos as they have done previously before launching large invasion against Vietnam last February.

AAPSO, by its statement on March 8th, 1979 has

warned the people of the world about the fallacy of China's declaration of troops withdrawal and called for vigilance against a trick to deceive the people and prepare for new military adventures against the Vietnamese people.

AAPSO reassesses that as long as the Chinese leaders' policy of big nation expansionism and hegemony is not eradicated and its reactionary essence remains unchanged, the danger of war and invasion from China continues to threaten dangerously their neighbouring countries in Indochina and South-East Asia.

AAPSO calls on its national organisations and the world wide opinion to denounce and condemn the new perfidious manoeuvres of the Chinese leadership and to mobilize large scale public opinion for international actions to support the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their courageous and indomitable struggle to safeguard independence and sovereignty of their respective countries and defend peace and security in South-East Asia and the world.

7 April 1979.

THE WORLD STANDS WITH VIETNAM AGAINST CHINA'S AGGRESSION

By ATO YUSEF AHMED
Minister of Transport and Communication, Ethiopia

The Chinese leadership which invaded Vietnam with 600,000 troops was finally driven out by the gallant and heroic people of Vietnam. Over 62,000 Chinese troops were killed or wounded by the Vietnamese people and the victory gained by the broad masses of Vietnam is also the victory of the oppressed peoples of the world.

This was said at a press conference by Ato Yusef Ahmed, Minister of Transport and Communications, member of the Presidium of the Ethiopian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and leader of the five-man delegation on its return from Vietnam recently.

Ato Yusef said that the purpose of his delegation's visit was to express the solidarity of the African and Asian peoples with the people of Vietnam and to inspect the damage committed by the Chinese aggressors. He said that the delegation has seen China's inhuman and savage killing of children, women and old people. He added that Chinese troops have destroyed schools, hospitals and towns and even looted household ustensils and cattle.

Ato Yusef said that the gallant people of Vietnam killed and wounded over 62,000 troops of China as a result of which the aggressor was forced to withdraw its forces from the Vietnamese territory.

"We have been deep to the war front", Ato Yusef said and added that although China says that it has withdrawn its troops from Vietnam there are still thousands of Chinese troops in Laos and other areas. He said that China is preparing to launch another big invasion against Vietnam. The people of Vietnam, Ato Yusef stressed, are preparing themselves with determination to defend their fatherland and that China will never defeat the heroic people of that country.

The Minister said that the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization which always stood alongside the people of Vietnam from the time when Vietnam was struggling against the United States will also stand at their side until final victory is achieved.

This is the remnant of what was earlier a big Catholic church at Lang Son.

DOWN WITH CHINA'S AGGRESSIVE WAR!

By JEREMIAH NECAPEPE

African National Congress of South Africa

After only four years of independence, which the heroic Vietnamese people deservedly regained after decades of people's war against French colonialism and American aggression and occupation, a victory which led to the reunification and self-determination of the peoples of North and South Vietnam, at a time when the peace-loving people of Vietnam were unitedly engaged in the reconstruction and the creation of the material basis for the attainment of socialism, on 17 February 1979, the People's Republic of China launched an aggressive war on the whole border with Vietnam.

This cowardly and barbaric aggression by the Chinese ruling clique against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, angered all decent men and women throughout the world and they asked Whither socialist China ? The voice of the peace-loving humanity was heard throughout the world, condemning the worse-than-Nazi barbaric acts perpetrated by the Peking ruling clique against the newly-born Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Shortly earlier, the Peking ruling clique had not only whipped up the fury of the reactionary regime of Pol Pot in Kampuchea, but had directly assisted it to commit acts of aggression against Vietnam.

Our delegation spent five days in North Vietnam and four days in South Vietnam. We visited Lang Son, in the

North and there we saw the worst material damage that man can imagine, a church was completely demolished by explosion, a hospital with three hundred beds plus all the hospital equipment, a two hundred and fifty metre bridge, a railway station, even the railway lines and engines, a chemical factory and a school that accommodated 6,000 children plus all the school equipment and all the buildings, were totally destroyed, shelled or dynamited before the Chinese army withdrew after their two-day occupation.

There were tears in the eyes of the whole delegation, not tears of pity but of anger. Of the over 1,500 Chinese soldiers who caused this immeasurable damage, only two hundred escaped licking their wounds and all their arms and ammunition were captured by the heroic Vietnamese people and over a thousand troops were annihilated in the pitched battle in this once beautiful town.

The call of the Vietnam Communist Party to the nation to mobilise and defend theier motherland was answered by millions of young and old who came forward to carry their national duty of defending their country. A vivid example was in South Vietnam, where even Christian Bishops, Buddhist ministers of religion and nuns, gave their voluntary labour and worked for nearly two weeks constructing earthworks for defence installations. This was a grand example of people's enthusiasm.

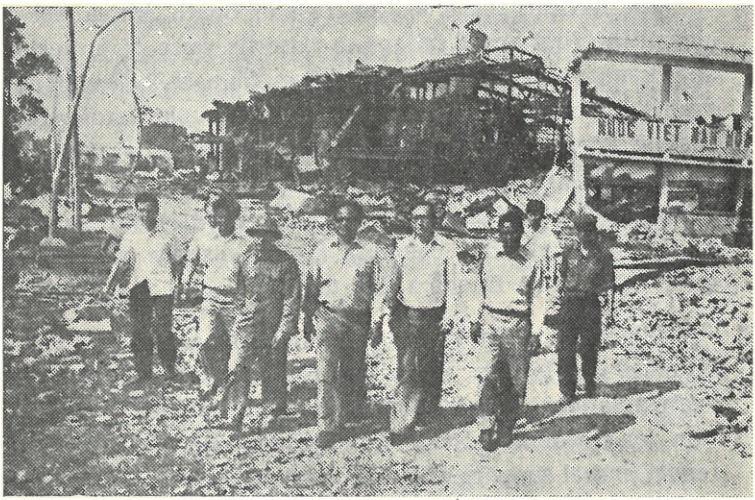
The brazen act of aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam by the People's Republic of China has been condemned universally by all peace- and freedom-loving people. China's action against heroic Vietnam serves the cause of world imperialism and is against the basic interests of the Chinese people themselves.

The African National Congress of South Africa was among the first organisations to raise its voice of protest and issue a statement condemning Chinese aggression against Vietnam — a country which had fought heroically against tremendous odds for many decades; a people whose epic struggle against continuous Japanese occupation, French colonialism and American imperialism is one of the most glorious chapters in the history of man's quest for human freedom and dignity.

The ANC of South Africa has always considered the struggle in Vietnam as its own — a common struggle against national aggression, imperialism, colonial domination, for freedom and national independence. We have extended moral support and expressed solidarity with fighting Vietnam in the past. We continue to do so now in the context of the new aggression.

We have no doubt Vietnam shall emerge victorious. Long live the Socialist Republic of Vietnam !

Down with the Chinese aggressors !



Chemical factory for the extraction of Anis seed oil built with French government collaboration completely destroyed by Chinese aggressors.

Ky Lua bridge in Lang Son destroyed by the Chinese aggressors.

VIETNAM SHALL BE VICTORIOUS

By BAREN RAY
Deputy Secretary-General, AAPSO

At any time, it is a crime to commit aggression against a neighbouring country, it is a greater crime for a very large country to commit aggression against a small country, but it was the greatest and the most heinous crime to launch a bloody and unprovoked aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a country most beloved to the peoples of the world for all that the name Vietnam has conveyed in recent history.

The ruling clique in Peking had planned a 48-hour blitzkrieg with a six-prong attack across the 1200-kilometre long northern frontier of Vietnam counting on rapidly reaching Hanoi, dictating the terms, and then magnanimously retreating having taught Vietnam a lesson. They had boasted that their objective was to shatter the myth of Vietnam's invincibility. It happened otherwise. The massive invasion involving some 600,000 troops supported by 600 tanks as well as heavy artillery was fiercely resisted by the frontier guards and the local militia, in fact by the entire able-bodied adult population. The women and children and the aged were largely evacuated, but wherever the Chinese forces found any civilian population these were most cruelly massacred. Nowhere could the Chinese invading force advance beyond 30 or 35 kilometers from the frontier. But in blind hatred and fury they perpetrated total destruction on everything that came their way before they were forced to retreat.

The main Vietnamese armies were hardly called upon to engage the aggressors. But within two weeks of fighting the logistics of the Chinese invading army broke down; the Chinese soldiers lacked ration and looted everything—food, household goods, cattle and even children's toys. The P.R.C. soldiers presented a very sorry image—totally ill-informed, uneducated poor peasant-soldiers, totally ignorant of the objectives of this war in which they were used as cannon fodder. Ever so often their commanders using the so-called human wave tactic sacrified them in hundreds or even thousands. The total casualties inflicted on the aggressors were 62,000 including killed, wounded or taken prisoners. Such was the grim price of the adventure launched by the Peking ruling clique in pursuit of their expansionist hegemonist ambitions.

What we saw in Vietnam was a great and unprecedented surge of national solidarity and determination. We saw that glorious face of the legendary courage of Vietnam, calm and untrobuled and smiling, which even the most infamous bloody Christmas bombing of Nixon in the past had failed to dim or diminish. Even as we went north to Lang Son, totally destroyed by the Chinese, we saw the smiling faces of the people all working hard to restore normal life, returning to the villages which had been evacuated, some reconstruction work already begun. Everywhere, even just a few miles before Lang Son, we saw little children going to or returning from schools which had reopened everywhere. The northern areas are mostly inhabited by some of the tribal minorities, it was they who fought the aggressors and set great records of courage and heroism. We saw them in large numbers. The pace of life was already normal every-

where. But there are signs of military preparedness everywhere too. Whether having dug in at high levels throughout the mountain region or in matter of being adequately equipped with all the necessary modern weapons, we were told everywhere that Vietnam is well prepared for all eventualities but that their greaetest strength lay in the sympathy and solidarity of the peoples of the world.

We went South to Ho-Chi-Minh city and met many people, representatives of different sections, leaders of the Party, government or of the mass organisations. There we were told again and again that in the past, in the decades-long liberation war in the south, the North had been their firm and never-failing rear, for ever sending help in arms, equipment and men. Now that a new treacherous enemy has struck in the North, the entire South will become the firm rear taking over a part of the burden of meeting the requirements of national defence and national economy. Many sections of the population in the South who had been indifferent or even unsympathetic during the liberation war, now, four years after reunification, they were very active constituents of the new wave of national solidarity. The religious community were particularly noteworthy in this respect.

In the past when Vietnam fought against imperialism and aggression, all the peace- and freedom-loving forces stood by her and wished her victory because had Vietnam failed the independence and sovereignty of all the peoples of the world would have been weakened before the might of imperialism. By defeating imperialism and winning the most glorious victory, the Vietnamese people had won victory for the whole world.

Today too, the danger of Chinese expansionism acting

in collusion with U.S. imperialism is threatening many countries in South-East Asia, and the peace and security in the whole of Asia, the Indian Ocean area and indeed the whole world. In the past, the Chinese hegemonists had got away with their arrogant and aggressive acts against other neighbouring countries. Beginning with their forcible suppression of the people of Tibet in a manner in which no country claiming to be socialist should act against an ethnic minority, to their border wars and disputes against India, Burma, Nepal, Mongolia, etc., the Chinese rulers had succeeded in imposing their will against their neighbours. Peoples of Asia were therefore most anxious that the Chinese aggressors in Vietnam must be halted and they extend their deepest congratulations to the Vietnamese people for stopping the aggressors and forcing them to retreat.

Our Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity movement has grown in the last two decades acting and mobilising in solidarity with Vietnam. Today at the turning point of new historical developments, solidarity with the people of Vietnam shall continue to be a central principle of our movement to fight against the new dangers emanating from the most opportunistic collusion between the Chinese expansionist hegemonists and imperialism. The international solidarity movement shall stand together with Vietnam against imperialism and collusion with imperialism.

TELEGRAMS FROM VIETNAM AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

AFROSAICO
CAIRO

Grateful for your prompt response to Chinese aggression against Vietnam. Upto now China mobilized half million troops and is dispatching more in attempt to prolong and expand war agression. Urgently wish you take actions condemning aggression and demanding immediate total unconditional withdrawal Chinese troops from Vietnam.

Please keep public opinion and national movements informed of imminent danger. China again massing large-scale troops and war materials close to Vietnamese border threatening resumption of war. Chinese propaganda recent days paving way for another criminal war of aggression against both Vietnam and Laos. International actions absolutely necessary. Thanks.

Vietasiafro

KAMPUCHEA NATIONAL UNITED FRONT THANKS AAPSO

AAPSO Secretariat received the following telegram from the Chairman of the National United Front for the salvation of Kampuchea (NUFSK)

Mr. Abdel Rahman El-Sharkawi, Secretary-General
The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization
Cairo

On behalf of the central committee for NUFSK, the People's revolutionary council of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people and in my own name, I would like to extend to yourself and AAPSO our sincere thanks for your warm congratulations and cordial sentiments on the occasion of the national day of the Kampuchea both in the past struggle for national liberation and their current struggle for national defence and construction. The Kampuchean people have always enjoyed precious sympathy and support from AAPSO and progressive people in Asia and Africa. I take this opportunity to express the sincere gratitude of the Kampuchean people NUFSK the PRC of Kampuchea to AAPSO and the Asian and African peoples for this precious sympathy and support the Kampuchean people NUFSK the PRC of Kampuch resolved to strengthen solidarity and mutual support and assistance among Asian and African countries in the legitimate interests of each people for the sake of the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress against imperialism, colonialism, neo-

colonialism, racism, and Zionism. May AAPSO record great successes in its lofty cause. Please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, my best wishes for your health and successes in the fulfilment of your important task and the assurances of my highest consideration.

HENG SAMRIN-CHAIRMAN OF NUFSK
AND PRC OF KAMPUCHEA

Meo minority community returning near Lang Son.

VIETNAM SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE THANKS AAPSO

AFROASIACO
CAIRO

LAST February and March AAPSO Permanent Secretariat carried out many activities; condemn Chinese expansionists wicked aggression against Vietnam, sent delegations to countries of Asia and Africa and hold public meetings supporting Vietnamese people. AAPSO also sent delegation to Vietnam to investigate crimes perpetrated by Chinese aggressors against our border people and voice total support for our just struggle and defend independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity. This constitutes brilliant manifestation of unshakable friendship and militant solidarity between Vietnamese people and peoples of Asia and Africa on behalf of Vietnamese people, we express profound gratitude toward AAPSO and peoples of Asia, Africa for this precious support. We renew our pledge to make our best contribution to victory for peoples of Asia, Africa in their fight against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, Zionism and hegemonism for national independence, peace, democracy, and social progress.

Hanoi, 11 April 1979.

VIETASIAFRO

THREE-POINT SETTLEMENT PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION AND CHINESE DELEGATION ON 18 APRIL 1979.

Main principles and contents of a three-point settlement of the problems concerning the relations between the two countries.

1. Urgent measures to secure peace and stability in the border areas of the two countries and to ensure an early reunion of the people captured during the war with their families.

a) To refrain from concentrating troops close to the border-line, to separate the armed forces of the two sides : The armed forces of all kinds of each side along the entire border-line to pull back into their territory to a distance of three to five kilometres from the line of actual control prior to February 17, 1979.

b) To stop all acts of war provocation and all forms of hostile activities violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the other side and threatening is security.

c) The zone lying on either side of the line of actual control mentioned above and where the armed forces of the two sides will be no longer present shall

become a demilitarized zone. The status of this demilitarized zone shall be agreed upon between the two sides.

d) The two sides shall exchange at once lists of people captured by the two sides during the war so that they may be returned as soon as possible.

e) To set up a joint commission of the two sides to supervise and control the implementation of the above mentioned measures.

2. Restoration of the normal relations between the two countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence : Respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, refraining from the use of force or the threat of use of force, non-interference in the internal affairs of the other side, settlement through negotiations of disputes and differences in the relations between the two sides, development of economic and cultural relations in a spirit of mutual respect and mutual benefit.

On that basis, to restore railway, civil aviation, postal, etc..., relations.

To resolve the question of the aftermath of the war.

3. Settlement of border and territorial problems between the two countries on the principle of respect for the status quo of the border-line left by history and delineated by the 1887 and 1895 Conventions signed between the French Government and the Tsing Government, as agreed upon between the Vietnamese and the Chinese side, respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The above-mentioned three-point stand of the Govern-

ment of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is reasonable and sensible, it conforms to the actual situation and meets the desire of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples to see their traditional friendship restored, at the same time, it responds to the desire for peace and stability of the peoples of South-East Asia and the world.

Chinese Prisoners of war held by Vietnamese women fighters.

Tanks of the Chinese invading army immobilised by the Vietnamese resisters.

INTERVIEW GIVEN BY PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG TO THE INDONESIAN NEWS AGENCY

Question : For an outsider it is rather surprising to notice the existing conflict between Vietnam and China, since most of outsiders still remember the close relations and cooperation between the two countries, especially during the independent and liberation war against France and America. What are the causes of the conflict and when did it start ?

Answer : For those who understand the real nature of the relations between the two countries, there is nothing surprising about the Chinese authorities present attitude towards Vietnam. It originates from their long standing ambitions of big power expansionism and hegemonism with regard to Vietnam and other Southeast Asian countries. The Peking rulers statements along with publicized in Chinese schools constitute eloquent evidence of China ambitions with regard to many countries in this region. An independent, sovereign, unified and socialist Vietnam is a great obstacle to this ambition. That is the reason for their extreme hostility and their attempts to oppose and weaken Vietnam.

With regard to Vietnam, Nixon's visit to China in 1972 and the Shanghai joint communique marked a turning point in the attitude of the Chinese authorities, the later set obstacles to the Vietnameese people's resistance war, and supported the U.S. imperialists attempt to maintain their neo-colonial regime in South Vietnam and to perpetuate the partition of Vietnam .In 1974, they cynically occupied Vietnam's Hoang Sa (Paracels) islands.

The Vietnamese people's thorough victory in 1975 in their fist for independence and freedom led Peking to step up with resentment their disruptive attempts aimed at subjugating Vietnam, on the one hand, they took hold a Kampuchea as a springboard for expansionism, used the Pol Pot — Ieng Sary clique as a tool for provoking war along Vietnam South Western border, on the other, they instigated trouble making and disruptive activities among Hoa people, cut off economic aid and intensified armed provocations along the Vietnam — China border.

After the normalization of US-China relations and Deng Xiao-ping's visit to the United States, the Peking rulers launched a large-scale war of aggression against Vietnam.

As is well known, Peking's military venture suffered a dismal defeat. Vietnam's regional armed forces powerfully fought back against the aggressors, and recorded a glorious victory for the Vietnamese people.

Question : Your Excellency, the two sides are accusing each other of hampering the spirit of negotiation. What is the prospect of the settlement towards conflict and what is Vietnam stand ? Suppose the dispute couldn't be settled, do you feel it necessary to have the good will of a third country or the United Nations Secretary-General ?

Answer : For the sake of peace and the long standing friendship between the Vietnamese and the Chinese peoples, we made it clear on March 6, 1979, that after the complete withdrawal of Chinese troops to the other side of the historical border-line, which the two sides have agreed to respect, we are willing to negotiate with

a view to resolving the disputes and restoring normal relations between the two countries. That good willed position has been reaffirmed in the March 15, 1979 note and the March 27, 1979 statement by the spokesman of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in which specific proposals were made on the timing and place for the negotiations, we have also appointed the head of the Vietnamese delegation to the negotiations.

On April 4, 1979, the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a note to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs proposing that the negotiations at the level of vice foreign affairs be started around April 10, 1979, to discuss the problems concerning the relations between the two countries.

Once again we have shown our good will in a desire to restore the traditional friendship between the two peoples and to contribute to the preservation of peace and stability in this region.

If fruitful negotiations are to be started at an early date both sides must show good will.

Question : In the past it is clear to Indonesia that Vietnam maintained its equidistant balance between its relations with Russia and those with China. But since the treaty between Vietnam and the Soviet Union was signed in 1978 there has been an image that the equidistant balance has been disrupted. Your Excellency, is that true ? Public opinion has spoken of a possible establishment of Soviet military bases in Vietnam, in so doing, will Vietnam run counter to its policy of non-alignment and will it affect the region ?

Answer : Vietnam has always attached great im-

Go ahead, comrades !
The French have replaced the Japanese.
The Yankees have replaced the French.
Now it is our turn in Vietnam.

H. Bistrup — Countries and peoples —
DENMARK

portance to the preservation and strengthening of solidarity and friendship both with the Soviet people and Chinese people. The deterioration of the Vietnam-China relations is due to the Peking rulers' ambition of big power expansionism and hegemonism, and their policy of hostility to Vietnam. The Soviet Union has always been a friend of Vietnam and has given the Vietnamese people great and effective support and assistance in their protracted fight for independence and freedom. The signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union does not in any way affect Vietnam's policy of non-alignment, Vietnam has always pursued and is pursuing a policy of non-alignment striving to bring into full play its positive effect in the non-aligned movement.

The alleged existence of foreign military bases in Vietnam is sheer fabrication.

Question : What is happening in Kampuchea and Laos ? The joint communique between Laos and Kampuchea foments us an interpretation that this step is the final realisation of the ideas of an Indochina federation is that true ? Now can peace be restored in the three Indochinese countries ? Is it necessary to convene a second Geneva-type conference to seek a solution for the Indochinese problem ?

Answer : What is happening is that the Kampuchean people and the Lao people are safeguarding their national independence and sovereignty, and resolutely fighting against the Peking rulers policy of big power expansionism and hegemonism. The strengthening of the militant solidarity which links the three nations of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam is an essential require-

ment in the fight against the common enemy to safeguard their sacred national rights. The Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea solidarity bears no relation to the so-called Indochinese federation which died long before the defeat of French colonialism in Indochina. The Peking rulers and imperialist circles are now speaking and again about it, only for the purpose of dividing and weakening the three countries so that they can easily annex them one by one. The people of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam are now masters of their lands and their destinies. They are striving hard to develop good relations of friendship and co-operation in all fields in their respective interests and for the sake of peace and stability in this region and in the world. This is the business of the three countries, nobody has the right to interfere in it.

Question : Your Excellency, how far did the recent Sino-Vietnam border war affect the economic conditions and reconstruction programme of Vietnam ?

Answer : In starting the war of aggression against Vietnam the Peking rulers nurture many wicked designs including that of creating difficulties to the Vietnamese people's economic construction. However, this will only enhance our people's determination and effort on the economic front. We have made great efforts to deal with this problem in our first and in our second resistance war on the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and in the liberated areas of South Vietnam.

Otherwise, we could not have brought our resistance wars to victory. At present, the whole Vietnamese is surging forward and bringing into full play its courage, intelligence and creativeness, with the firm resolve to fulfil both the tasks of building socialism and defending its beloved socialist fatherland.

Question : The influx of Vietnamese refugees has caused deep concern to all ASEAN member-countries, what steps have been taken by the Vietnam government to share the burden of the ASEAN countries caused by the influx of the Vietnamese refugees ?

Answer : We have, on many occasions, expressed our regret about this. We are trying our utmost to avoid whatever can create difficulties to other countries in this region. We are cooperating with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) to find out the best solution to this problem.

Question : What will be Your Excellency's opinion on ways and means to increase and stabilise the bilateral relations between our two countries since there are several matters which each side has different opinions ? When will be the prospect of the negotiations regarding the continental shelf ?

Answer : We will do everything in our power to carry out our commitments with the Indonesian side in order to strengthen relations of friendship and co-operation in all fields between Vietnam and Indonesia. We are convinced that the Indonesian side has the same desire. We have now favourable conditions to unceasingly improve the relations between our two countries in the interest of our two peoples, and for the sake of peace, stability and prosperity in Southeast Asia.

With regard to the continental shelf problem, I am confident that with the good-will of both sides, a satisfactory settlement will be reached, which meets the correct interests of each side.

Avail myself of this opportunity to convey to the

people of the Republic of Indonesia the friendly greetings of the Vietnamese people. We hightly appreciate the good-willed attitude of the Indonesian Press which has helped to enlighten the public on recent developments in Vietnam. May the good relations of friendship between our two peoples increasingly consolidate and develop. May the Indonesian people achieve more results in building a prosperous and happy Indonesia.

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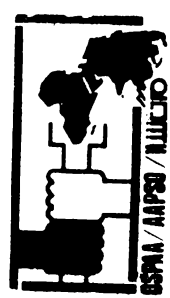

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